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OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Ms. Riitta RESCH (Finland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 30 September 1997, the Fourth Committee decided to hold a general debate covering agenda items 18, 90, 91, 92 and 12 and 93, on the understanding that individual proposals on matters covered by those items would be considered separately. The general debate on the items was held at the 3rd to 7th meetings, on 6, 8, 9, 10 and 13 October (see A/C.4/52/SR.3-7). The Committee took action on item 93 at its 9th meeting, on 27 October (see A/C.4/52/SR.9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/388 and Add.1 and 2).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.4/52/L.6

4. At the 9th meeting, on 27 October, the Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution entitled "Offers by Member States of study and training facilities

for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories" (A/C.4/52/L.6), sponsored by Algeria, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Philippines, Singapore, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania. Subsequently, Argentina, Jamaica, the Sudan, Thailand and Trinidad and Tobago joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/52/L.6 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

6. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/142 of 13 December 1996,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[1] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. Invites all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

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[1] A/52/388 and Add.1 and 2.

4. Urges the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. Draws the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.